

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00958 061347Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00
MCT-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 /054 W
-----113732 061447Z /40

R 061317Z SEP 77
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1217

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 0958

E.O. 11762: GDS
TAGS: PINT, EG
SUBJECT: SECURITY INFORMATION IN ALEXANDRIA

REF: ALEXANDRIA 0723, ALEXANDRIA PORT

1. DPO VALERGA AND I AGREED LATE LAST WEEK THAT OUR UNPRECEDENTED INABILITY ARRANGE APPOINTMENT WITH USUAL SOURCES IN LOCAL SECURITY APPARATUS, COLONEL ABDEL HADI AND MEGD, COULD WELL HAVE BEEN BECAUSE THEY KNEW SUBJECT WE WOULD PROBABLY RAISE WOULD BE CONCERNING LATEST PRESS STORIES ON FANATICAL MOSLEM GROUPS, AND THEY WERE RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS MATTER. ALEXANDRIA 0723 MENTIONED ABDEL HADI'S DISCOMFORT IN LESS CRITICAL DISCUSSION OF "SOLDIERS OF GOD."

2. BECAUSE OF OUR SUSPICIONS, I FINALLY REQUESTED MEETING WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SECURITY, GENERAL BASSEM GHEISS (ALEXANDRIA 0945). HE WAS AS GRACIOUS AND CORDIAL AS EVEN IN RECEIVING ME, BUT AS SOON AS CONVERSATION TURNED TO RECENT ARRESTS AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE, BASSEM CLAMMED UP. WHEN I PRESSED A LITTLE, HE SAID: "THESE MATTERS ARE POLITICAL. I AM NOT IN A POSITION TO DISCUSS THE. YOU MUST TALK WITH THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR IN CAIRO."

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3. OUR RELATIONS HAVE BEEN SO GOOD, I PRESSED NO FURTHER, SAYING I WOULD PASS ON HIS SUGGESTION TO THE AMBASSADOR. LATER, IN DISCUSSING CAMPAIGN AGAINST FOOD PROFITEERS (ALEXANDRIA 0954), BASSEM HAD NO HESITATION IN CITYING "WHAT HAPPENED ON JANUARY 18 AND 19 "AS HAVING ITS BASIS IN POPULAR DISCONTENT OF GREAT POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE, ALL BUT STATING THAT INTERIOR AND SUPPLY MINISTRIES CAMPAIGN WAS PRECISELY DESIGNED TO CREATE POSITIVE

POLITICAL ATTITUDES AMONG PEOPLE OF ALEXANDRIA AS THEY SAW
GOVERNMENT "DOING SOMETHING TO HELP THEM FIGHT THE RISING COST
OF LIVING.
CHASE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, POLITICAL SITUATION, INFORMATION CONTROL, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770322-0080
Format: TEL
From: ALEXANDRIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770997/aaaaddmf.tel
Line Count: 66
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 1384290
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Subject: SECURITY INFORMATION IN ALEXANDRIA
TAGS: PINT, EG, (GHEISS, BASSEM)
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